



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Prices were unchanged throughout the week in all locations. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to very good. Supplies were sufficient to instances ample with mediums in the longest position. Breaking stock prices with checks and undergrades were unchanged. Offerings were adequate for the light trading and demand. Floor stocks were usually in close balance as most breakers were working hand to mouth. Schedules were mostly full-time. Trade sentiment was steady. Light type fowl prices were unchanged. Offerings adequate to occasionally short of processor needs. Removal prices were steady at 4 to 10 cents per head.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to retailers and to producers unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Sales into retail continued in a full range of light to good, mostly light to moderate. Food service egg movement ranged from light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample and building at a some processors. Central States breaking stock prices were to few to report today. Offerings were adequate for current needs. Floor stocks closely balanced. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	114-123	118-120
LARGE	114-122	116-119
MEDIUM	100-106	103-105

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,
Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady. Demand ranged light to instances fairly good. Supplies were adequate to available for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were irregular and demand was moderate. Spent hens were usually sufficient for the at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	120-134	123-126
LARGE	115-129	120-124
MEDIUM	101-114	106-108

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ,
Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

COMBINED REGIONAL

Mar 12, 2004

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	114.50	113.00	101.00
SOUTHEAST	114.50	112.50	109.00
MIDWEST	108.00	106.50	97.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	113.50	112.50	100.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	112.64	111.17	101.73

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN			
	03-16-04	03-09-04	03-18-03
Large	97-104	87-94	47-51
Medium	83-87	77-81	32-36

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-MAR 15, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.4	20.8	9.6	16.2	15.3	73.3
	Change	-1.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.9	7%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	28.0	41.8	15.3	26.8	37.3	149.2
	Change	1.4	8.2	3.0	6.5	2.6	17%
Large	Curr Wk	57.8	130.4	97.2	121.4	104.3	511.1
	Change	6.8	23.1	26.9	21.0	-8.3	16%
Medium	Curr Wk	21.1	35.6	16.3	21.8	32.5	127.3
	Change	0.7	1.9	3.6	1.1	6.0	12%
Small	Curr Wk	5.5	4.9	1.5	4.6	4.6	21.1
	Change	-1.1	0.9	0.1	0.6	-1.0	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.6	22.8	7.6	12.9	5.6	53.5
	Change	0.5	-0.3	-0.7	-0.5	-1.5	-5%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	26.7	45.2	19.2	41.4	32.6	165.1
	Change	4.1	9.8	2.9	9.7	2.3	21%
Total	Curr Wk	155.1	301.5	166.7	245.1	232.2	1100.6
Percent	Change	8%	17%	29%	19%	1%	14%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1100.6	14%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	217.0	-1%	35
Total Shell Egg	1317.6	11%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers. No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Processed Eggs: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection**WEEK ENDING 13-MAR-04**

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)			
	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,167,965	28,880	10,633	5,989	2,371	4,140
PW	1,184,079	29,179	10,820	6,342	2,418	4,156
LY	1,119,153	28,985	9,562	5,183	1,822	4,117
% CHG PW	-1	-1	-2	-6	-2	0
% CHG LY	4	0	11	16	30	1
2004	11,596,688	273,854	111,945	62,735	26,658	40,884
2003	11,183,360	270,428	102,368	56,726	24,977	41,498
% CHG YTD	4	1	9	11	7	-1

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.50	42.65	42.75
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.96	39.14	39.07

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in		Broiler Chicks Placed	
	19 Selected States		in 19 Selected States	
	Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 6	Mar 13
	Thousand			
AL	30,426	29,851	21,665	21,762
AR	31,160	31,225	25,759	25,228
DE	3,085	3,199	4,145	4,799
FL	1,359	1,334	1,695	1,711
GA	32,686	32,896	26,205	26,331
KY	*7,047	7,099	*5,717	5,891
LA	3,787	3,742	3,522	3,605
MD	8,861	8,826	6,312	5,633
MS	19,219	19,172	16,404	16,421
NC	18,437	18,986	14,409	15,067
OK	6,516	6,506	4,087	5,037
PA	*3,845	3,773	*2,771	2,713
SC	3,781	3,836	3,980	3,721
TX	*15,078	15,101	*12,320	12,354
VA	6,544	6,606	5,093	4,992
CA, MO, TN, & WV	17,791	17,868	15,225	15,197
19 State Total	*209,622	210,020	*169,309	170,462
Previous Year Total	207,539	204,958	165,230	167,239
Pct. of Prev. Year	101	102	102	102

* Revised

Broiler/Fryer: Weekly Fryers Available for Marketing Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 24-Apr-04 is estimated at 156.3 million head. This compares to 155.2 million head the previous week and to 156.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 155.2 million head and the composite weighted average price was 57.61cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/11/04-03/17/04**CURRENT LDS** 54.75 **FUTURE LDS** 56.50 **TOTAL LDS** 111.25

CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	98.75	107.08	100.21	100.86	100.00	103.00	46.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR BR 1	—	92.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W J	—	—	—	100.00	103.40	—	2.50
GL W XL	—	122.60	109.57	114.12	111.11	—	27.50
GL W LG	—	121.78	109.83	112.00	117.64	—	43.00
GL W MD	102.00	103.14	92.00	94.33	87.67	93.50	23.25
GL W SM	—	60.50	57.50	60.00	—	—	2.00
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	105.00	112.38	2.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	92.50	—	94.67	2.00
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	78.83	80.83	3.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 13-Mar-04

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW LY
ATLANTA	28.4	29.5	-4 45
BOSTON	3.3	3.3	0 -6
CHICAGO	61.0	82.5	-26 14
DETROIT	24.4	27.8	-12 -13
KANSAS CITY	12.2	5.3	130 198
LOS ANGELES	89.9	91.1	-1 3
NEW ORLEANS	7.5	6.5	15 -41
NEW YORK	29.3	29.4	0 -9
ST. LOUIS	16.3	17.9	-9 -4
SAN FRANCISCO	20.5	21.8	-6 -7
TOTAL	292.8	315.1	-7 5
4 WK MVG AVG	303.9		

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 13-Mar-04

	YOUNG HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD	TOTAL
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312
AVG WT	15.95	36.37	25.55	23.16	28.38
LAST WEEK	1,729	2,515	73	24	4,341
SAME WK YR AGO	1,736	2,757	46	25	4,564
AVG WT	15.88	36.34	25.63	31.97	28.42
TO-DATE/2004	16,843	24,580	423	88	41,934
TO-DATE/2003	17,189	26,282	620	146	44,237

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

Week ending W/E 13-Mar-04 (Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)						
--YOUNG TURKEYS--			OLD		TOTAL TURKEYS	
THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	BANDED		AVG	
HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	-THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT	
N EAST	866	-15	22.99	(A)	868	22.99
SATL	740	14	31.17	(A)	742	31.17
N CENT	1,888	1	32.65	(A)	1,889	32.65
S CENT	478	-3	20.46	(A)	479	20.46
WEST	333	11	23.49	(A)	334	23.49
U.S. TOTAL	4,305	(B) 0	28.38	7	4,312	28.38
TO-DATE						
2004	41,846	(B)		88	41,934	
TO-DATE						
2003	44,091	(B)		146	44,237	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 70,000 for the year 423,000; last year to date 620,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 13-Mar-04

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	157,179	1,344	1,165	2,509	487
AVG WT	5.06	3.43	8.15	5.62	6.69
LAST WEEK	153,459	1,129	1,250	2,379	440
SAME WK YR AGO	151,337	1,558	1,356	2,914	425
AVG WT	5.23	3.49	8.18	5.5	6.2
TO-DATE/2004	1,536,632	12,737	12,646	25,383	4,568
TO-DATE/2003	1,502,010	16,627	13,644	30,271	4,204

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 157.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.1 million head or 2.1 million head more than or 101% of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 20-Mar-04

	Current Week 03/20/04(1)	Previous Week 03/13/04
	-----THOUSAND HEAD-----	
CLASS		
BRO-FRY	157,909(2)	157,083
LT HENS	1,298	1,381
HVY HENS	1,324	1,398
TOTAL	160,531	159,862

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 20-Mar-04 is 158.6 million head compared to 154.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 158.2 million head or 0.4 million less than estimated available. For week of 27-Mar-04 the estimated available is 158.0 million head.

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO
ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 7	155.7	159.1	98%	5.22
14	154.4	158.5	97%	5.16
21	154.1	157.7	98%	5.05
28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH 6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
13	159.1	157	101%	5.06
YEAR TO DATE	1400.1	1412.3	99%	
MARCH 20		158.6		
27		158.0		

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers f.o.b. and Delivered to First Receivers at major market areas week of 3/15/04-03/19/04 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A			COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS	
Chicago	69.00-72.00	72.16	40	74.24	78	
Los Angeles	78.00	78.24	58	79.64	135	
New York	75.00-77.00	75.58	24	74.42	54	

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from		
15-Mar-04	8-Mar-04	8-Mar-04	17-Mar-03
75.30	-0.62	75.92	60.89
NUMBER OF LOADS	616		

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				
8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-64	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-64	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	62-64	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	59-61	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	60-62	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	60-62	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F.

2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting.

4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting.

5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)
SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 03/15/04	3,219	174,570	39,884
AM 03/01/04	3,548	169,441	39,330
CHG	-329	5129	554
PCT CHG	-9%	3%	1%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 15-Mar-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast (1)	6.25-10.25 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.25	8.91
Southeast (2)			
South Central(1)	6.25-12 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9.25	9.35
(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading			

LIGHT TYPE 12-Mar-04 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

REMOVAL COST

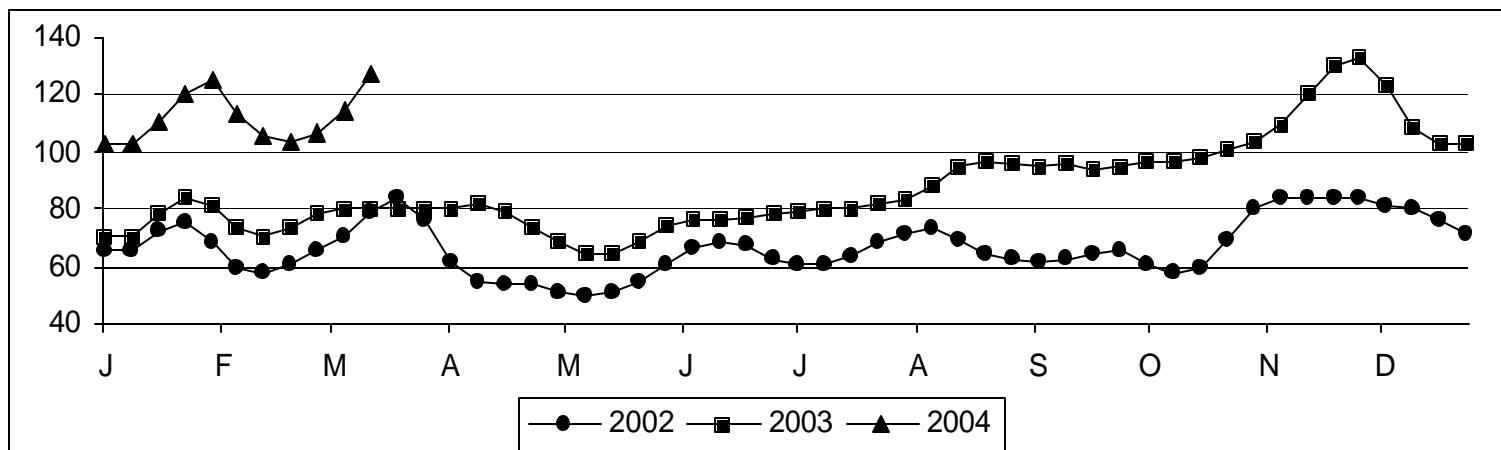
	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	0-12	9-11
So. Central	Too Few To Report	
No. Central	4-10	6-8

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

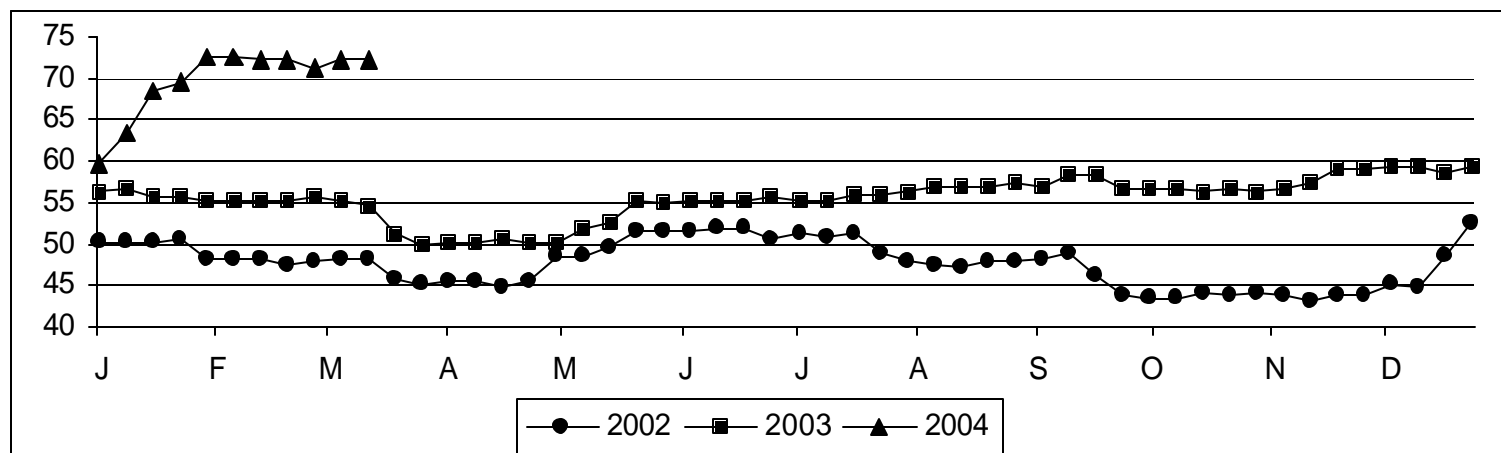
W/E 13-Mar-04

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	226.8	2	2
E.N. CENTRAL	592.8	4	5
W.N. CENTRAL	287.1	3	0
S. ATLANTIC	184.4	5	2
S. CENTRAL	99.9	0	0
WEST	185.2	-7	0
TOTAL	1576.2	2	2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

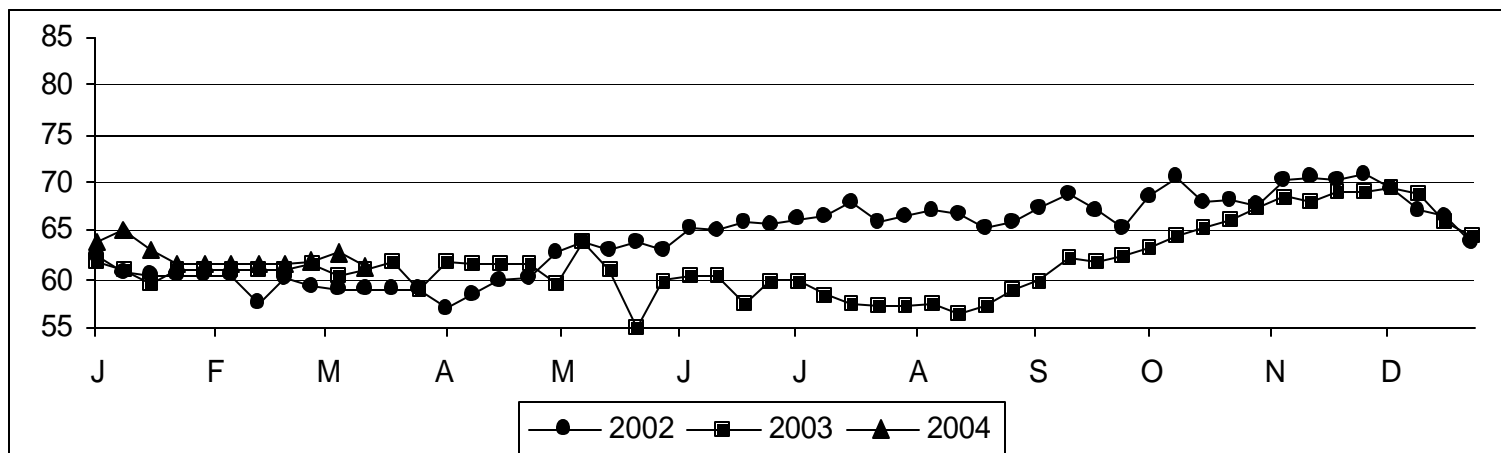
New York Large Weekly Average Price Cents per Dozen



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices Cents per Pound



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys Cents per Pound



Note: Some Weeks' Average Prices are Based on Offers Only

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**Washington, DC**Mike Sheats
Branch ChiefVoice (202)720-6911
Fax (202)720-2403**Des Moines, IA**Mary L. Adkins,
(Officer-In-Charge)Voice (515)284-4471
Fax (515)284-4468
Recorded (515)284-4545**Atlanta, GA**Johnny Freeman,
Officer-in-ChargeVoice (404)562-5850
Fax (404)562-5875
Recorded (404)562-5856**Los Angeles, CA**Jim Derby,
Officer-in-ChargeVoice (213)534-1330
Fax (213)534-1333
Recorded (213)534-1335**Jackson, MS**Gary Brown,
(Southern States Area Supervisor)Voice (601)965-4662
Fax (601)965-4661